United Nations S/2016/619

Security Council

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Note by the President of the Security Council

1. The President of the Security Council, building on the measures set out in the notes by the President of the Security Council contained in documents S/2016/170 of 22 February 2016, S/2014/393 of 5 June 2014, S/2012/937 of 17 December 2012 and S/2010/507 of 26 July 2010, and in an effort to further improve the effectiveness of and to ensure continuity in the work of the Council, wishes to state that all members of the Council are committed to implementing the measures set out below concerning newly elected members.

Preparation of newly elected members

2. The Security Council invites the newly elected members of the Council to observe all meetings of the Council and its subsidiary organs and the informal consultations of the whole for a period of three months, as from 1 October immediately preceding their term of membership. The Council also invites the Secretariat to provide all relevant communications of the Council to the newly elected members during the above-mentioned period.

3. Notwithstanding the foregoing measure, the Security Council will not invite the newly elected members to a specific private meeting of the Council or to specific informal consultations of the whole if a request to that effect is made by a member of the Council where exceptional circumstances exist. The newly elected members will not be invited to the meetings of the Council or the informal consultations of the whole related to the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General. The newly elected members may be invited to the monthly luncheon with the Secretary-General held in December immediately preceding their term of membership, at the discretion of the President of the Council for that month.

4. The Security Council invites the Secretariat to continue to take appropriate measures to familiarize the newly elected members with the work of the Council and its subsidiary organs, including by providing briefing materials and holding seminars before they begin to attend Council meetings.

Selection of Chairs of subsidiary organs

5. The members of the Security Council should make every effort to agree provisionally on the appointment of the Chairs of the subsidiary organs for the following year no later than 1 October.

6. To that end, the members of the Security Council will start an informal process of consultations, with the participation of all Council members, on the appointment

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of the Chairs of the subsidiary organs from among the members of the Council for the following year as soon as possible after each election of members of the Council. The members of the Council should also consult informally with the newly elected members in the process.

7. This informal process of consultations will be undertaken in a balanced, transparent, efficient and inclusive way so as to facilitate an exchange of information related to the work of the subsidiary organs involved and will be facilitated jointly by two members of the Security Council working in full cooperation.

8. All members and newly elected members of the Security Council should be informed of the outcome of the informal process of consultations on the appointment of the Chairs of the subsidiary organs in a transparent and substantive way prior to the provisional agreement on the appointment.

Preparation of Chairs of subsidiary organs

9. The Chairs of the subsidiary organs are encouraged, with the assistance of the Secretariat as required, to provide those members of the Council that will take over the chairmanships with written and oral briefings about the work done during the outgoing chairmanship and to maintain informal meetings with the incoming Chairs, as necessary, including with the assistance of the Secretariat.

10. The briefings will be accompanied by documents adopted during the outgoing chairmanship and all informal documents and background information the outgoing Chair deems pertinent for enlightening the incoming Chair, including draft documents being discussed by the subsidiary organ. Taking into account that such documents and information might not have been made public, they will be provided to the members that will take over the chairmanships as soon as possible after the chairmanships have been provisionally decided.

11. The members of the Security Council acknowledge the support given to incoming Chairs by the Secretariat and request the Secretariat to consider further measures to provide incoming Chairs and their staffs with additional substantive and methodological briefings on the work of relevant subsidiary organs.